

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Kota Ishibiki	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	To be assigned	<b>Art Unit:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Filed:</b>	Herewith	<b>Docket:</b>	17235
<b>For:</b>	MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AUTOCLAVING SYSTEM, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AUTOCLAVE, AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AUTOCLAVING METHOD	<b>Dated:</b>	November 11, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,296,067, dated October 20, 1981, issued to Näsman et al.;
2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-70226, published March 21, 2001 together with an English language abstract;

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Paten Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Dated: November 11, 2003

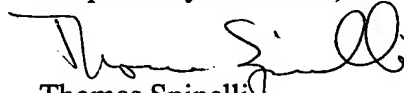
  
Thomas Spinelli

3. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-51323, published February 22, 2000 together with an English language abstract;
4. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-24094, published January 25, 2000 together with an English language abstract;
5. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-225179, published August 15, 2000 together with an English language abstract;
6. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-224666, published August 21, 2001 together with an English language abstract;
7. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-263172, published September 17, 2002 together with an English language abstract;
8. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-253477, published September 10, 2002 together with an English language abstract;
9. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-17824, published January 22, 2002 together with an English language abstract (corresponding to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0001551 A1, published January 3, 2002, issued to Moriyama);
10. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 5-285103, published November 2, 1993 together with an English language abstract;
11. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 5-337082, published December 21, 1993 together with an English language abstract (corresponding to U.S. Patent No. 5,609,561, dated March 11, 1997, issued to Uehara et al.); and
12. Japanese Utility Model Laid-open No. Hei 4-128747, dated November 25, 1992 together with an English language abstract.

Applicant is submitting copies of the above-cited Japanese references and their English language abstracts. U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance of the reference 2 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Spinelli', written over a horizontal line.

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) <b>17235</b>	Application Number <b>To be assigned</b>
	Applicant(s) <b>Kota Ishibiki</b>	
	Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>	Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,296,067	10/20/1981	Näsman et al.			
		5,609,561	3/11/1997	Uehara et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		2001-70226	3/21/2001	Japan			✓	
		2000-51323	2/22/2000	Japan			✓	
		2000-24094	1/25/2000	Japan			✓	
		2000-225179	8/15/2000	Japan			✓	
		2001-224666	8/21/2001	Japan			✓	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

		U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0001551 A1, published January 3, 2002, issued to Moriyama

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

